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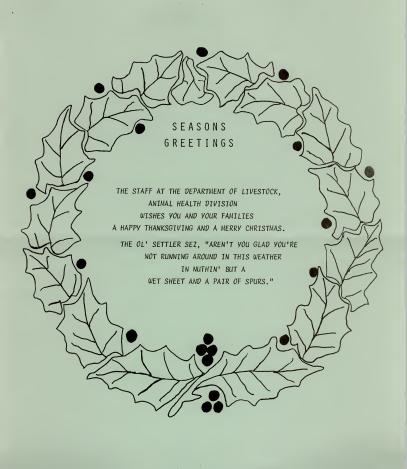
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STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
Animal Health Division
Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER 1978

USAHA BRUCELLOSIS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS TO USDA, APHIS VETERINARY SERVICES

Members of the USAHA Brucellosis Committee, Brucellosis Advisory Committee, and Brucellosis Technical Committee met during the USAHA Meeting in Buffalo, New York on October 29 through November 3, 1978, and adopted recommendations to APHIS made by the Brucellosis Technical Commission. This Special Commission was comprised of R. K. Anderson, D.Y.M., M.P.H., Professor of Public Health at the University of Minnesota; David T. Berman, D.V.M., Ph.D., Professor in the Department of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Wisconsin; W. T. Berry, Ph.D., Professor of Animal Science at Texas A & M; John A. Hopkin Ph.D., Economist and Professor at Texas A & M; Robert Wise, M.D., Internist in Infectious Diseases at the Veterans Hospital in Maine.

The findings and recommendations by the Brucellosis Committee were as follows:

- Since the Commission found that local eradication of Brucellosis is biologically feasible, that State and Federal governments and industries affected support a cooperative program of control leading to local eradication of this disease.
- Since levels of understanding and knowledge of Brucellosis are very low among many with the need to know, educational programs aimed at improving the knowledge of those professionals (including veterinarians) in public and private sectors who have the responsibility of advising and regulating those engaged in production, handling, and marketing of cattle and cattle products, and education to increase public awareness of the implication of the disease and the eradication program.
- The payment of indemnity should be keyed to current market replacement value and reexamine policy of paying indemnity in states with low quality eradication programs.
- USDA should provide adequate levels of funding to insure sufficient research in Brucellosis to cope with present and unanticipated problems as the program advances.
- Research should be sponsored studying the cyclic, geographic, movement, marketing and other economic and epidemiologic factors which influence animal disease control, and that this data be used in the systematic review of the Brucellosis program policy, its implementation and evaluation.

- 6. Give serious consideration to and study the probable effects of implementing consumer protection standards in the processing of Brucellosis reactor cattle and swine, comparable to the standards presently in force requiring the cooking of branded tuberculin reactor cattle and swine with lesions of Tuberculosis.
- Study a concept of a permanent non duplicative individual identification system for animals.
- Develope a proposed model law, to be sent out to each state concerning dealer registration and record keeping for disease control purposes.
- Study and develope an educational program related to implied warranties on animals at time of sale.
- Develope a model memorandum of agreement involving the herd owner, his practicing veterinarian (when desired) and the state animal heath agency, for the elimination of brucellosis from an infected herd.
- Recommend that the status of any herd placed under quarantine for Brucellosis be made known to herd owners in the immediate community. Similar notification would be made when the herd quarantine is released.
- 12. Cattle that have been exposed to reactors unless returned directly to herd of origin and test eligible cattle of unknown status which are being moved or sold without appropriate serologic testing be "S" branded so as to restrict movement.
- 13. Amend definition of exposed animals to read: Animals that are part of a known infected herd or that have been in contact with brucellosis reactors in marketing channels are considered to be exposed, regardless of the blood test results. Such animals must be placed under quarantine and restricted in movement, pending slaughter or testing after return to herd of origin.

Reclassify states and develop educational material to instruct industry as to the new Brucellosis classification.

- a. Class A Brucellosis Free (Zero infection due to field Strain <u>Brucella abortus</u> for more than 12 months).
- b. Class B Intermediate risk of Brucellosis (Cannot exceed 12 month prevalence rate of 1% for herd infection with field Strain Brucella abortus.)
- C. Class C Higher risk of Brucellosis (States that do not meet requirements for Class A or B.)
- 14. Recommend all female calves be vaccinated in accordance with present Uniform Methods & Rules (U.M. & R.) with future recommendation of vaccination with reduced dosage vaccine and extend vaccination age to 12 months

- 15. Recommend that effective immediately U.M. & R. be revised to require quarantine and retest at not less than 30 nor more than 120 days post movement of all test eligible cattle moving interstate from Modified-Certified states and that they move under permit issued by the state of destination:
 - a. Option #2 of Alternative Options for serologic test requirements be made part of U.M. & R. and implemented by or before December 31, 1980. (See attached Table II)
 - b. Option #1 of Alternative Options for serologic test requirements be made part of U.M. & R. and be implemented by December 31, 1982. (See attached Table II)
- Change U.M. & R. (1977), Part II Recommended Procedures, Page 4 to read: In all brucellosis areas, a herd check test is recommended not less than six months after quarantine release.
- 17. The card test may be used as an official test to classify cattle as reactors only (1) when conditions and time are such that no other test is available, or (2) on request of the owner and/or his agent because of time or situation constraints.
- 18. Recommend amendment of UM & R to provide that each state or region have the laboratory capability of running the complement-fixation and rivanol tests and of bacteriological culturing services for the isolation of Brucella abortus from milk & tissues.

Evaluation of these laboratories should be reviewed each three years.

- Each state brucellosis-eradication program shall furnish quality epidemiologic service to veterinarians and herd owners in brucellosis prevention and control leading toward local eradication.
- Review the federal program and each state brucellosis program with respect to the qualifications and performance of personnel and to the implementation of U.M. & R. at least once each three years.
- Each chief animal health official of the various states and his federal counterpart review the total surveillance programs available in the state.
- 22. Define a reactor as follows: Cattle both officially vaccinated and non-vaccinated that react to the card test where it has been used as the sole test as specified; or disclose titers of 50% fixation in dilution of 1:20 or higher on the Complement-Fixation test; or a titer of +25 or higher on the Rivanol Test; or are found infected by other diagnostic procedures such as isolation of field strain Brucella abortus on culture.
- 23. Definition of test eligible cattle to include all cattle over 12 months of age except: steers, spayed heifers, official vaccinates of dairy herds under 20 months of age and official vaccinates of beef breeds under 24 months of age as evidenced by the presence of the first pair of permanent incisor teeth, which are not parturient (springer) or post parturient.

TABLE II FOR BRUCELLOSIS-TEST-ELIGIBLE CATTLE ALTERNATIVE SEROLOGIC TEST OPTIONS FOR CHANGE-OF-OWNERSHIP OR MOVEMENT

	SEROLOGIC TESTS OPTION #1	SEROLOGIC TESTS OPTION #2	SEROLOGIC TESTS FUTURE OPTION
	More Protection - All States More Restrictions - Class B & C States	Less Protection - All States	When Prevalence is Reduced to 1/3. Present Class B Require ments. No Class C States
CLASS "A" STATES	1-A No serologic tests required for movement or sale.	2-A SAME AS OPTION 1-A	Future Option A SAME AS OPTION 1-A
Brucellosis	Recommend voluntary test 30-150 days post-purchase or post-movement.		
	Within Class A States To Class A or B or C States	Within Class A States To Class A or B or C States	Within Class A States To Class A or B or C States
CLASS "B" STATES Intermediate Risk of	1-B Two negative tests at intervals of not less than <u>60 days</u> , or	2-B One negative test within <u>30 days</u> prior to or during movement, or	Future Option B No serologic tests required prior to or during sale - Same as Option 1-A
Brucellosis	move from <u>qualified herd</u> without test Quarantine at destination and <u>test</u> 30-150 days post-movement	<pre>qualified herd - Same as Option 1-B Quarantine at destination and test Same as Option 1-B</pre>	Quarantine a <u>statistically</u> <u>adequate sample</u> , or groups sold or moved, at destination and <u>test 30-150</u> days post-movement or post-purchase
	Within Class B States To Class A or B or C States	Within Class B States To Class A or B or C States	Within Class B States To Class A or B States
CLASS "C" STATES	1-C <u>Three</u> negative tests at intervals of not less than <u>90 days</u>	2-C SAME AS OPTION 1-B	Future Option C NO CLASS C STATES
Higher Risk	Qualified herd - Same as Option 1-B		
of Brucellosis	Quarantine at destination <u>and test</u> Same as Option 1-B Within Class C States To Class A or B or C States	Within Class C States To Class A or B or C States	
		4	

24. Change definition of herd to: a herd is all cattle (Genus Bos) under common ownership or supervision, that are grouped on one or more parts of any single premise (lot, farm, or ranch) or on two or more premises geographically separated but which have had an interchange of movement or contact at any time.

(Groups of cattle under multiple ownership on common premises, such as community pastures, grazing association allotments, etc., shall be considered as a herd).

- 25. Change definition of a successful traceback, to occur when premises or herd of origin of a market test reactor is located and the herd is tested as deemed necessary. Each traceback requires a comprehensive epidemiologic investigation and follow-up to effectively locate and control the disease.
- Identification of official vaccinations shall be uniform in all states and shall include official vaccination tattoos and official vaccination eartags.
- 27. Effective immediately the definition of a tested herd shall be a herd of cattle for which the state has records showing that the herd has been subjected to official testing for brucellosis in accordance with procedures for herd tests for initial modified area certification within 12 months prior to movement and that the herd is not known to be affected with brucellosis. This classification will be discontinued December 31, 1980 and all herds that meet requirements will be known as qualified herds. A qualified herd must have at least 2 consecutive negative herd tests not less than 10 nor more than 14 months apart.

The term certified free herd will be dropped immediately.

28. It is recommended to allow the use of the tailhead as an alternate site for the hot "AV" brand on adult vaccinated cattle. Provide rules for judicious, controlled use of "Whole Herd Vaccination" of brucellosis negative herds with high risk of infection.

These recommendations are the points that APHIS, VS will take into consideration when making changes in the U.M. & R. and facets of the Brucellosis Program.

To base the program on sound medical knowledge and sound epidemiological principles while considering the impact that various influences of the cattle cycle may have is a point of view and avenue of attack that has long been overdue in the Brucellosis Eradication Program.

NOTE TO ALL DEPUTY STATE VETERINARIANS

All Deputy State Veterinarians should be especially aware of the imminent danger of scabies outbreaks in Montana this fall and winter.

Please be alert and examine all cattle handled, for whatever reason (ie. Pregnancy testing, vaccination, health certification, etc.), for scabies. When in doubt as to whether a diagnosis might be lice, scabies, or other forms of dermatitis: make a skin scraping and submit it to the Laboratory in Bozeman. Please submit a completed SV-17 "Report of Investigation" form for all herds examined for scabies in the course of your other work.

COLLECTING BLOODS

Remember winter is here again; maybe to stay!

Consequently, when collecting bloods to be sent to the lab, keep them warm! The cold causes hemolysis making testing difficult to impossible. If some samples are unsuitable for testing you might be asked to rebleed some animals. Every one that has had to do this can attest to the fact, that it is highly unprofitable.

BRUCELLOSIS TEST ONLY WHEN USING TAIL BLEEDERS

Dr. Hubbell has notified this office that due to the work load in the busy season only brucellosis tests will be run on blood samples submitted in tail bleeders. Screening for other diseases, specifically leptospirosis in tail bleeders, will not be done. Blood for additional tests will have to be submitted in the large test tubes.

EAR TAGGING PLIERS

Due to the increasing costs of all equipment and supplies, the Department of Livestock finds it necessary to recover costs on some supplies.

Starting immediately, there will be a change assessed when ear tagging pliers are sent out to Deputy State Veterinarians, except when a Deputy is initially deputized.

The change will cover the purchase costs.

NEW EMPLOYEES FOR MILK & EGG BUREAU

Everett Tudor was appointed as Chief of the Milk & Egg Bureau on September 22, 1978. Everett has worked for the Department's Milk & Egg Bureau in the Western District since 1968. He and his family (wife Marjorie, and two daughters Kayleen and Evaleen) have resided in Polson since 1968. Everett will assume his duties as Bureau Chief on November 6, 1978 in Helena.

Kathy Arnold, currently from Bozeman, will be filling Everett Tudor's position in the Western District. She is a 1976 graduate from Eastern Kentucky University and holds a BS Degree.

We wish Kathy and Everett success in their new positions and are very glad to have them with us.

ATTENTION: SUPPLY AND FORM ORDERING

It has been brought to our attention that some individuals are ordering supplies and forms from the Diagnostic Laboratory in Bozeman.

All supplies and forms are sent out from the Helena office. Therefore, to hasten delivery of your supplies and forms you should order them from the Helena office.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING, PREPARING, AND SUBMITTING GENITAL SWABS

The following is an excerpt from a USDA, Veterinary Services Notice dated October 5, 1978:

CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS

TYPE TEST	MINIMUM VOLUME OF SAMPLE NEEDED	TIME REQUIRED FOR TEST	DAYS TEST IS ROUTINELY STARTED	ROUTINE DILUTIONS
Culture	3 swabs	15 days	Monday thru Friday	N/A
HOW REPORTED CEM organism is CEM organism no		ADVANCE NOTICE OF SUBMISSION None required	REQUIRED SPECIMEN Swabs from: MARE STALLION	METHOD OF PRESERVATION Amies Transport media
CLM OF GUITTSIN TO	ic isoluced		1. Urethral Urethral sinus fossa 2. Clitoral Prepuce	Refrigerated*
			sinus Penis	
			Cervical canal	

REMARKS: All esport testing performed at the National Veterinary Services Laboratories, Ames, Iowa must be authorized by the Area Veterinarian in Charge of the State of origin prior to submission of specimens to that laboratory.

^{*}It is very important that the specimens be collected properly, handled aseptically, packed and shipped immediately by the most expeditious route.



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STATE OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION HELENA, MONTANA 59601





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MONTHLY LETTER

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ADMINISTRATOR &
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STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
Animal Health Division
Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

OCTOBER 1978

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL BRUCELLOSIS TECHNICAL COMMISSION

Approximately two years ago the Brucellosis Advisory Committee of the U. S. Animal Health Association in conjunction with APHIS, Veterinary Services contracted with five individuals (Brucellosis Technical Commission) well qualified in various fields, not necessarily veterinary medicine, to review procedure, content, and intent of the National Brucellosis Eradication Program. After an exhaustive and a very complete evaluation of the Brucellosis Control Program, a thorough study of the cattle industry and its economic cycles, and necessary study of individual state and area needs, this commission brought forth its formal report in early September and made recommendations for change to the Brucellosis Advisory Committee in Chicago, September 12 & 13, 1978.

These recommendations are being distilled by a subcommittee, in order that they may be presented to the USAHA in October. That USAHA will ask APHIS to adopt the changes in policy and procedures in the brucellosis program and include these in the impending modification of the Uniform Methods and Rules.

It was refreshing to participate in the Advisory Committee's deliberations and hear the report by the Technical Commission. For the first time in too many years a critical objective review of the brucellosis program was made, and extremely frank and practical criticisism has resulted. It was noted that the technical knowledge necessary for ultimate eradication is available but that the fortitude and interest to implement them have been lacking in some cases. Scientific understanding of the disease, in most cases, was lacking at all levels in federal, state and local officials involved in the eradication program; from herd owners and other non-scientific people involved; and veterinarians involved either in practice or regulatory capacities.

In the past little or no emphasis has been placed upon the variation in the cattle economic cycle and its influence on the epidemiology of brucellosis and the resultant disruptions to the control program. The movements of cattle, adjustments in cattle population, relative costs of the program and any number of other factors have to be considered when formulating a workable program of eradication and control. Several recommendations that would have the greatest impact upon practitioners in Montana might be: reduction in dosage of vaccine, increasing maximum vaccination age to one year; lowering the test eligible age of heifers to 16 months; and adoption of sound epidemiological methods in handling infected herds or suspected infection in a herd. The handling of herd and state eradication would be vested at the state level and as Montana has done, the particular methods used can be varied as needed from herd to herd as long as they demonstrate sound, practical epidemiology.

It was heartening, to a long time program critic, to find that actually Montana is relatively far advanced in the level of eradication measures that are now employed, and other states look to us as an example of how it can be done. This could not have been accomplished without strong cooperation of state and federal personnel,

practicing veterinarians, market operators, and most of all that "old guy out in the brush" who takes the brunt of these programs, good or bad, the Montana Cattle Producer. It will be most interesting and gratifying to anticipate the adoption of these recommendations by APHIS and watch the ultimate eradication of brucellosis.

Possibly ---

There is a light at the end of the tunnel.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

This office was recently alerted by officials of APHIS, Veterinary Services that an outbreak of Foot and Mouth disease had occurred at the Plum Island, New York Research Station. The disease was diagnosed in cattle in the conditioning pens which are not exposed to foot and mouth disease virus in the experimental pens. Apparently the experimental Foot and Mouth virus escaped from the maximum security area. There has been no secondary spread of the disease to other livestock, but stringent controls have been reinstated and an exhaustive investigation is under way to locate and correct the break in internal security in isolation and sanitary aspects that resulted in the escape of the Foot and Mouth virus from the isolation facility.

This should again serve as a warning to all practitioners that this dreaded disease can gain entry to the United States by various means and decimate our populations of cloven footed livestock. One would certainly hope that the next outbreak of Foot and Mouth in the United States with secondary spread does not arise from the Plum Island Station.

THE NEVER ENDING SAGA OF SKUNKS & RABIES

Recently in Missoula County this Bureau learned through information from Preventive Health Services, Department of Health & Environmental Sciences, of a "pet" skunk that had been imported into Montana in violation of the state's import rule governing wildlife species. Arizona's public health officer had notified his Montana counterpart, in the course of an epidemiologic investigation, of a human exposure in his state.

During the course of the investigation, conducted by District Veterinarian Earl Cooper, it was discovered that this skunk had originated in a pet store in Arizona. When queried, the owners reported that in discussion with the pet store owner, he indicated that demand for these seemingly irresistible pets had exceeded his ranch raised supply, so he supplemented his stock in hand, with additions from the local population. The Missoula couple had no idea whether their precious companion originated from wild or ranch stock, but they were aware that acquaintances of theirs in Arizona were having to keep their pet under 180 day quarantine because of rabies exposure of unknown degree, to at least 25 people.

Dr. Cooper informed the Missoula owners that 180 day isolation in a detention area, supervised by a veterinarian, was necessary. These folks felt that this quarantine was extremely limiting since their Arizona counterparts were confining their mephitic darling at home. At this time Dr. Cooper apprised them that under no circumstances could Montana allow this since Missoula is a non-endemic rabies area and exposure of more people in the owners' home could occur during the quarantine period.

These people seemed to be unable to grasp the severity of the threat of rabies, even when being aware that 25 people in Arizona have been exposed by a skunk from the same possible origin as theirs. The woman felt that allowing the "cute" little rascal to lick her about the face and mouth was perfectly all right.

It is really hard to believe that so many people so grossly disregard the threat of this disease.

This is another illustration of the necessity for strict import controls on skunks and other wild rabies vectors and also points out the need for records requirement in pet stores showing source and dissemination of skunks and other wild life that they have sold.

RETURNING SPECIMEN SHIPPERS

As an economy measure, all empty specimen shippers will be returned to Veterinarians by United Parcel Service. This service should be equal to, or better than past service. If you experience problems, please advise the laboratory personnel.



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HRYCHIW, W	Box 104	Havre	59501	265-2122
xHUBBELL, BECKWITH, Jr.	Diag. Lab., Box 997.	Bozeman	59715	586-5952
HURRY, J.J	1144 Lake Elmo Dr	Billings	59101	252-3793
=HUTCHINSON, MORTON D	1509 Janie Street	Billings	59101	248-7411
JAMES, D. 0	Box 76	Circle	59215	485-2610
JELLUM, G. A.	Box 1000	Chinook	59523	357-2850
JOHNSON ANNE H	Box MM	Malta	59538	654-2710
JOHNSON C I	Box 216	. Cut Bank	59427	873-4082
JOHNSON P D	50 Moore Lane	Rillings	59101	252-4159
10DDEN EDWARD E	50 Moore Lane	Rillings	59101	252-4159
TOURDAN D	1321 Airport Road	Rillings	59101	245-4772
KANE. R. E	630 Sunnyside Ave	Dlantuwood	50254	765_1760
VALVE DICHARD C	Box 194	Prady	50/16	753-2240
KAUK, KICHARD G	307 North Main	Canad	EU43E	279 2226
KELLEK, LUKAN W	507 North Main	Conrad	E0227	EE7 6220
KEMP, HARRY L	Box 546	Jordan	E0064	676 1251
KEYSER, R. C	BOX 546	Kondn	F0102	656 6220
KHALEEL, S. A	3215 Rimrock Road	Billings	59102	755 6605
KIMBALL, WILLIAM	Box 455	rork	59911	/55-6695
KINER, H. CRAIG	2207 Lake Elmo Dr	Billings	59101	252-6284
KINYON, RICHARD H	307 N. Main	Conrad	59425	2/8-3236
KITTO, GERALD P	P.O. Box 524	Whitehall	59/59	28/-384/
KNORR, G.E	Box 1253	Dillon	59/25	683-2385
LAFRANCE, R. F	Custer Highway	Hardin	59034	665-2330
+LAMBERT, J. A	Box 579	Wolf Point	59201	653-2829
LEACH, C. R	Box 189	Miles City	59301	232-2559
LEE, KENNETH C	Daniels Vet. Clinic	Scobey	59263	487-2862
LEE, ROBERT P	P.O. Box F	Choteau	59422	466-2152
LEEDS, JOHN H	Box 282	Belt	59412	277-3542
LESLIE, HUGH A	Box 457	Ennis	59729	682-4283
LIEN. RAYMOND G	Box 146	Absarokee	59001	328-3041
LOESCHER, JAMES L	Box 4308	Helena	59601	458-9790
LOTT, ROBERT C	Box 98	Twin Bridges.	59754	684-5513
LOVGREN. GREG S	2605 W. Main	Bozeman	59715	587-4458
LUEHRS, ROGER D.	2605 W. Main	Bozeman	59715	587-4458
MAC DONALD BRUCE G	P.O. Box 2905	Great Falls	59403	761-8282
MADSEN RODNEY M	Box 546	. Fnnis	59729	682-4842
PINDOLIN, NODITE I PILLER				

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE	TELEPHONE
MAGNUSSON, A. B	Box 311	Frenchtown	59834	626-5778
MARBUT, REED				
MARRINAN, MICHAEL T				
MARTIN, WAYNE H				
	Gibson Rt., Box 709			
MC CLEARY, J. D				
MC FARLAND, W. D	P. O. Box 369	Fort Renton	59//2	622_3732
MC GREGOR, DOUGLAS				
=MC ILHATTAN, JOHN A	D+ 2 Roy 351	Rozeman	50715	586-0001
MC ILHATTAN, PATRICIA	1 D+ 2 Roy 351	Pozoman	50715	506 0004
MC LARTY, CAROLYN	1217 2nd Avanua No.	Crost Falls	E0/101	1E2 2261
MC LARTY, TOM				
MC MULKIN, CATHERINE S.	EO Moone Lane	Dillings	E0101	252 4150
MC NEW, H. K	Box 887	Cidnou	E0270	102 2002
MEIWALD, FRANK W	67E Wort 1st	Siuney	E0501	402-3003
METCALF, FRED L	0/5 WeSt 15t	navre	59501	200-4014
MICHAEL, HARRY A	Day 106	Druiiiiiona	54832	288-30/1
MILKELSEN CAMEDON	D O Day 400	worden	59088	967-3600
MIKKELSEN, CAMERON MILLER, GARY E	2701 History 02 C	Beach, Nu	58621	700 1110
=MISER, ROBERT J	II5 W. Grant	Bozeman	59/15	587-8746
MOORE, D. W	Rt. 2, BOX 20/3	Hamilton	59840	363-1123
MOORMAN, J. C	Stillwater Vet. Cl.	Whitefish	59937	862-2525
MOXEY, L. T				
MURPHY, JOHN PHILIP	Kt. 1 N., BOX 165	Deer Lodge	59/22	846-3627
MURRAY, JAMES O	Shields Route	Livingston	59047	222-3700
MYERS, R. P	Route 2, Box 303	Belgrade	59714	388-4272
=NASH, CARL F	/29 Avenue B	Billings	59102	252-7456
NELSON, N. W	Box 1253	Dillon	59725	683-2385
NELSON, RONALD C	Double Arrow Vet C.	Choteau	59422	466-2152
NEWBERRY, H. W. C	1465 Highway 2 East	Kalispell	59901	755-6766
#NEWCOMB, B. F	Dept. of Livestock.	Helena	59601	449-2043
NEWHALL, J. H	Rt. 2, Box 200	Bozeman	59715	587-0218
NORDELL, H. L		Geyser	59447	735-4431
NUGENT, TERRY	2721 Main	Miles City	59301	
O'DEA, PATRICK P	P.O. Box 14	Kalispell	59901	752-3530
OPALKÁ, JOHN D	2442 W. Central Ave	eMissoula	59801	721-1200
ORR, CONRAD O	3701 Highway 93	Missoula	59801	728-1110
OTTO, ARTHUR E	1408 South Main	Kalispell	59901	755-6886
PAINTER, R. D	2930 Montana Ave	Helena	59601	.442-6450
PAJAS, ANTHONY J	Rt. 3, Box 1249	Libby	59923	.293-7410
PANNETIER, L. L	3104 Green Meadow	Helena	59601	.443-5874
*PATTERSON, N.D	Box 159	Lewistown	59457	.538-5380
=PATTERSON, R.C	Dept. of Livestock.	Helena	59601	.449-2043
PATTON, B. P	Box 147	Cascade	59421	.468-2207
PEARSON, K. C	344 1st Ave. W	Kalispell	59901	. 755-5046
PEARSON, THOMAS W	5000 Grn. Meadow Dr	Helena	59601	.458-5666
PEEBLES, JOHN D	P.O. Box 147	Cascade	59421	. 468-2207

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE	TELEPHONE
PEEBLES, WILLIAM	P.O. Box 147	Cascade	59421	468-2207
	615 Central			
	Box 1636			
=PRENDERGAST. WAITER	3440 4th Ave. So.	Great Falls	59401	453-0189
	Rt. 3, Box 55F			
	1515 Livingston Av			
	1515 Livingston A			
OUTNIN WILLIAM 1	Diag. Lab., Box 99	72IIISSUUId	50715	586_5052
DACE DICHARD F	Rocky Mtn. Lab	Jamilton	50040	362-3211
DACIAND DICK	Rt. 1, Box 194	Hamdin	E0024	665 1900
DANDALL DAY U	Box 540	Dardin	E0014	662 2220
RANDALL, KAT W	Box 527	briager	E0752	205 2225
READ, K. D	Box 158	Konan	59004	257 2050
REINAKI, DUNALU W	Box 926	Chinook	59523	726 5225
KHTAN, JACK C	Evans Route	Stockett	59480	/30-3223
RHYNEER, PERRY	Box 55	lownsend	59644	266-5/94
+KIUGE, W. H	Box 55	Vaugnn	5948/	905-3155
KIEK, H. GILBERI	Box 948	Sidney	59270	482-3107
KUBERIS, SIEVEN M	P.O. Box 2905	Great Falls	59403	454-1/41
#RUBERISON, G. D	Box 1111	Bozeman	59/15	587-4275
ROBINSON, BILL J	Box 1167	Columbia Fall	s59912	892-4319
ROGERS, WILLIAM A	5100 9th Ave. So.	Great Falls	59401	/61-8183
ROSS, HERMAN	Box 875	Kalispell	59901	/55-6020
	Windward Cove			
SAGER, ROBERT	Route 2, Box 303.	Belgrade	59714	388-4272
SAHARA, R. J	Box 44	Sheridan, WY.	82801(307)672-5533
SALBADOR, GUS W	533 S. 24th St. W	Billings	59102	656-6320
SCHARA, MARDELL	52 Columbia Garde	nsButte	59701	792-6464
SCHENDEL, WILLIAM N.	Box 476	White Sul Spr	s59645	547-3857
#SCHMIDT, FRED R	Box 494	Billings	59103	252-8645
SCHMITT, JOHN B	Rt. 4, Box 33	Bozeman	59715	587-9330
SCHOTT, DALE J		Belt	59412	277-3542
SCOTT, JAMES A	Box 1665	Great Falls	59401	453-1629
=SEAMON, GEORGE	Route 1	Silesia	59080	962-3337
SEEKINS, KIRK A	P.O.Box 2905	Great Falls	59403	761-8282
#SHAFFNER, DON K	Box 1253	Dillon	59725	683-2385
#SHEETS, G. H., JR	Box 189	Miles Citv	59301	232-2559
SIMON, BARRY W	Route 2, Box 303.	Belgrade	59714	388-4272
SKINNER, RONALD F.	Drawer A	Hall	59837	288-3872
=SKROMS. VALDIS	2129 Lyman Ave	Billings	59102	248-7411
SLACK, HOWARD	1929 E. 6th Ave	Helena	59601	442-9238
#SLOBOJAN G T	Box 206	Kalisnell	59901	755-6695
SMILEY, PAUL	3080 Columbia	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
J. 111 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Falls Stand	Columbia Fall	5 59912	892-5385
SMITH DONALD F	Box 354	Augusta	59410	562-3340
#SMITH F K	Rt. 1, 3745 Harri	son Butte	59701.	494-3656
	Rt. 2, Box 315	3011.500000	000001	2071674 4111

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY	ZIP CODE	TELEPHONE
SMITH, RICHARD L	Box 189	Miles City	59301	232_2550
SMITH, SHERMAN J	Box 1111	. Bozeman	59715	587_1275
SORENSON, L. W	P.O. Box 471	Williston. ND	.58801 (70	1)572_7878
=SPEAR, VÉRNON D	706 Polaris Wav	Missoula	59801	728-2187
=STAHL, E. W	Rt. 2, Mullan Rd W.	Missoula	59801	. 543-5354
STAUDT, ARTHUR E	Star Route	Columbus	59019	322-5924
=STEVENS, EARL H	Box 779	Dillon	59725	683-4832
STEVENS, MICHAEL K	441 Shilo Road	Billings	59102	656-1910
STODDARD, A. L +STODDARD, J. L		Broadus	59317	436-2563
+STODDARD, J. L	Drawer Z	Baker	59313	778-3327
%SIDENNER, H. G	1102 So. 2nd St	Hamilton	59840	363-3211
STOKKE, H. A	Box 248	Forsyth	59327	356-7564
STONEBERG, ROSE		Outlook	59252	
SWARTZ, STANLEY	3701 Hghwy 93 S	Missoula	59801	728-1110
SYVRUD, ROBERT S	Route 1	Polson	59860	883-4758
TAYLOR, STANLEY E	Route 2	Stevensville.	59870	777-5541
THURSTON, DONALD R	Box 90/	Belle Fourch,	SD.57717(60	5)892-2844
TIDBALL, WILLIAM	Box 803	Beach, ND	58621(70	1)872-4158
TOLMAN, DONALD G	HIWAY 91 N	Dillon	59/25	683-5428
TOMBRE, MATT E	50 Moore Lane	Billings	59101	252-4159
TOOKE, JAMES G	D+ 2 D 1510	Ekalaka	59324	755-6494
TURCOTTE, R. L	Rt. 2, BOX 1518	Laurel	59044	698-6/22
UTLEY, G. L VAN DER HAGEN, D. D	Boy 650	Iwin Briages	59/54	684-5514
VAN ZANDT. D. L	Roy 1/17	big illiber	59011	932-2116
VESCOVI, JOSEPH E	Roy 33	Poundun	F0072	665-2233
WALTON, ROBERT D	Roy 471	Williston ND	E0001 (70	1 \ 572 7070
#WARD, JACK	Rt 2 Roy 2472	Hamilton	E0040	1/3/2-/8/8
WEINANDY, D.A		Jordan	50337	303-2003
=WERRING, DEAN W	Grandview Trailer C			
,	Ave. C., Lot 50	Great Falls	59405	452_8877
WHEELER, DONALD O	2500 Harrison Ave	Butte	59701	792-0550
WILLIAMS, THOMAS M	Box 1253	Dillon	59725	683_2385
=WILLIS, F. SMITH	Box 205	Kalispell	59901	756-6675
WILSON, JOHN A	336 North Jefferson	Sheridan. WY	82801 (30:	7)674-4262
WUERNER, D. E	Rt. 1, Box 202A	Laurel	59044	698-8977
=WOHLIN, W. A	3113 Beech Ave	Billings	59102	656-3680
WOLFF, EDWARD F	2411 Dearborn	Missoula	59801	721-3069
YOUNG, M. M	1230 Euclid	Helena.	59601	442_0080
ZANCANELLA, A. T	Box 1703	Billings	59103	. 245-4847

NOTE: # - MARKET VETERINARIANS

* - DISTRICT DEPUTY STATE VETERINARIANS + - VETERINARY MEDICAL OFFICERS, USDA, APHIS, VETERINARY SERVICES

= - FEDERAL VETERINARIANS, USDA, APHIS, MEAT & POULTRY INSPECTION PROGRAM % - U. S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, ROCKY MOUNTAIN LABORATORY

x - MARSH LABORATORY, MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BOZEMAN

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Liom * * * Sept, 1878

STATE OF MONTANA



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK

ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

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MONTHLY LETTER

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Administrator & State Veterinarian



STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
Animal Health Division
Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

SEPTEMBER 1978

CONTRACT MARKET VETERINARIANS

Over the past year, there has been a continuing controversy over the eligibility of veterinarians to use the Brucellosis Card test. This problem has resulted in Board of Livestock action, July 13, 1978, limiting the use of the card test to Contract Market Veterinarians. The contracts between the department and the veterinarians making Livestock Auction Market inspections for the Animal Health Division are in the process of being signed this late summer and fall. Only the contracted veterinarian will be allowed to draw the card test kits, which are federal government property, from this office and that veterinarian will be responsible for all tests conducted by himself and designated alternate for each market. Each veterinarian will be proficiency tested in the use of the card test annually.

CURRENT SCABIES STATUS

In January, the Board of Livestock adopted a number of measures designed to prevent introduction of scables through importation of cattle. Several of these measures were: the adoption of a permit system on cattle, dipping facilities were arranged under contract with several individuals, and a portable vat was purchased by the department and is temporarily stationed at Alzada. Then in April, the Board adopted a permit system on all classes of livestock.

As of the present time with the cooperation of the private practitioners statewide, making physical examinations for the presence of scabies, we seem to still be free of the disease in our cattle population.

This fall and winter will be a crucial time, since the mite becomes more active in cooler weather. All veterinarians should be aware and vigilant for signs of scables when inspecting cattle this fall for other reasons.

We hope that Montana's efforts, to institute a preventive medical program, pay dividends, since it has been an uphill job convincing other states that this is the most logical and economical approach to a scabies control program.

Part of the resistance to our program has come from grass speculators bringing our cattle imports to an all time annual high. From July 1, 1977 to June 30, 1978 180,145 head of cattle were imported and 59,078 head of cattle required dipping at Montana stations. This has required a tremendous amount of additional work on an already strained and limited budget.

BRUCELLOSIS VACCINATIONS

The time is nearing when normal increase in demand for brucellosis vaccination of heifer calves occurs. The Animal Health Division again asks all practitioners vaccinating calves to render a service to your clients rather than a disservice. Pay attention to the details of this important procedure:

- Store, mix, and administer the vaccine under proper conditions, to heifers, 2 to 10 months of age for beef breeds, & 2 to 8 months of age for dairy breeds.
- Tattoo legibly and with the proper code digits in the right ear of every animal vaccinated. (Tattooing the steers you vaccinate is optional).
- The use of brucellosis vaccination tags is encouraged as an easy identifier of vaccinated heifers. (Use of either the vaccination tag or a U notch on the underside of the right ear is required.)
- Fill out completely form SV-64 (Official Brucellosis Vaccination Report) giving the owner one copy, send one copy to the State Veterinarian's office and keep one copy on file for your records.

Help keep your clients out of problems by proper brucellosis vaccination. It is very poor veterinary practice to do a sloppy job of <u>vaccination</u> and <u>reporting</u> that results in a clients being quarantined due to <u>your</u> misuse of Strain 19 vaccine.

ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE CHIEF OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY BUREAU

The annual laboratory computer analysis shows some interesting figures for fiscal year 1978, compared with FY 1977.

Accessions Processed by Species

	FY 77	FY 78	Increase / Decrease
Bovine Equine Porcine Ovine Feline Canine Avian Wildlife Misc.	1,848 482 269 108 185 402 90 408 263	2,530 626 433 228 205 510 100 357 581	+ 36.9 % + 29.8 % + 60.9 % + 111.1 % + 10.8 % + 26.8 % + 11.1 % - 12.5 % + 120.9 %
TOTALS	4,055	5,570	+ 37.3 %

Specimens Processed For Rabies

	Total Specimens	Positive
Human Exposure	201	6 (1 bovine, 1 feline, 2 canine & 2 wildlife)

Positive 25

No Human Exposure

332

The serology section processed a total of 412,052 blood samples during the fiscal year. During the month of November 57,343 blood samples were processed for an average of 2,730 blood samples per working day.

In order to assure Montana citizens a clean safe milk supply and to meet interstate requirements, the milk laboratory conducted a total of 22,267 separate laboratory tests or procedures during FY 78.

The Laboratory staff has had a busy fiscal year. We hope that the increased work load reflects a satisfaction in the quality of work being reported out of the Laboratory. We are constantly trying to improve techniques and be more responsive. If you have suggestions or complaints, we hope you will let us be the first to know.

SUBMITTED BY: DR. BECKWITH HUBBELL, JR.

EASTERN & WESTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS

In August, there was one confirmed case of Western Equine Encephalomyelitis reported in Park County and at this time one unconfirmed case in Phillips County.

This year the climatic conditions have been such that if late August and early September remain warm, we could still have a higher incidence of encephalomyelitis cases.

The Diagnostic Laboratory now has the capability to run the CF test for several encephalitidies (EEE, WEE, etc.) enabling faster services to the submitting practitioner. This increased service has come about since the laboratories of the Department of Health and Rocky Mountain in Hamilton have ceased to extend service to this department in running CF tests for several encephalitidies in question.

TIME REQUIRED TO REPORT SEROLOGIC TESTS

Before we get into the busy season again, it might be well to review the time needed to report out several serological tests:

Anaplasmosis: Set up every Wednesday, an all day test, results same day set up.

Bluetongue: Set up every Wednesday, a two day test, incubation overnight, read 2nd day.

Equine Infectious

Anemia: Set up Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, a 48 hour test.

WEE, EEE, and VEE:

Set up on Monday, about two hours to set up, incubation over night, read 2nd day.

In emergency situations, we will try our best to accommodate a change from the above schedules and please realize that during the busy season the above schedule is subject to change.

PSEUDORABIES

Montana has had four swine herds under quarantine for pseudorabies this past year. At the present time there is one herd under quarantine, and modified live virus vaccine is being used in an attempt to maintain population and control the disease.

Imports of swine over three months of age into Montana require that these animals be tested free of pseudorables. Exports of swine from Montana to other states may require that those animals be subjected to pseudorables test prior to entry.

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STATE OF MONTANA



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION HEIFNA, MONTANA 59601

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MONTHLY LETTER

BOARD OF LIVESTOCK

JAMES W. GLOSSER, D.V.M.

Administrator &
State Veterinarian



STATE OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK Animal Health Division Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

AUGUST 1978

MONTANA IMPORT COGGINS TEST RESCINDED

A hearing was conducted July 13, 1978 to review the opinion as to whether a coggins test for EIA should be continued as an import requirement on horses coming into Montana. Action taken by the Board, subsequent to the hearing, has rescinded the need for the import coggins test. The requirement of the test will continue until August 11, 1978 when the Board action dropping the test goes into effect.

The Board's decision to eliminate the test does not in any way change other states requirements, that horses exported from Montana be negative to a coggins test.

RESULT OF PUBLIC HEARING ON BRUCELLOSIS CARD TEST POLICY

By actions taken at the Board of Livestocks Meeting in Helena July $12\ \&$ 13, 1978, the Brucellosis card test kit has been limited to use by full time state or federal personnel, contract Livestock Market Veterinarians, and such others as may be approved by the State Veterinarian.

The card test is to be used \underline{only} in Livestock Auction Markets and \underline{only} on cattle $\underline{consigned}$ to \underline{sale} in the market. Cattle that are brought to the market as "feed only" or that are brought in only for test and are not consigned for sale are not eligible for test with the card test.

Use of the card test in the country for any purpose is not allowed except by full time employees of the state or federal government.

DIMETHYL SULFOXIDE: HISTORY AND WARNINGS

The following is an article from H.E.W., F.D.A., Drug Memo:

"FDA's Bureau of Veterinary Medicine has received recent inquiries about the drug dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO). Many of these inquiries may have been prompted when FDA's Bureau of Drugs recently approved DMSO for use in humans. That approval—the first ever for DMSO in humans—may have caused some confusion about the status of DMSO for veterinary purposes. Here, briefly, is the background of this so-called "miracle drug."

DMSO is a by-product of the paper-making industry; industrial grades of the solvent are marketed as paint remover and anti-freeze. DMSO has received wide publicity since the 1960's, touted as a treatment for arthritis, headaches, cancer, and mental retardation. In 1961, DMSO was discovered to have the

ability to rapidly carry other drugs with it th<mark>r</mark> anti-inflamatory, analgesic and other pharmacolo

> he following the lenses onged use fractive effect, FDA

also has

DMSO was first clinically investigated with FDA year, however, DMSO reportedly was linked with 1 of the eyes of experimental animals. Specifica; and particularly at high doses, was shown to calindex of the lens, producing severe myopia. Bec temporarily halted all clinical investigation of

uses.

t the use of was not for relief s. (The

The investigations, under new guidelines, were the drug for humans under other than investigat authorized until March 1978, when the Bureau of of pain and frequent urination associated with sponsor of the approved New Drug Application for Industries Corp., Salt Lake City.)

8, Syntex rket DMSO e more New

Research

While the drug had never been approved for use Laboratories Inc., Palo Alto, CA, first receiv for veterinary use in July 1970. Since then, Animal Drug Applications (NADA) for DMSO (all

The approved uses are:

*In a 90 percent solution, topically app<mark>!</mark> to trauma in horses and dogs.

*In a 90 percent gel, topically applied, trauma in horses.

*In a 20 percent solution with 0.01 percentreat impaction and inflammation of anal sacs anal sac secretions in dogs.

*In a 60 percent solution with 0.01 perc relieve pruritis and inflammation associated dogs. swelling due

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Products containing DMSO should not be used (r food or breeding (because of potential embryonic malformations).

All approved DMSO veterinary products are for use only by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian. Only the medical grade of DMSO should be used to treat animals because the technical or industrial grade preparations may contain toxic impurities that can be carried through the skin.

Those administering DMSO should wear rubber gloves because the substance is rapidly absorbed through the skin. (This precaution is wise not only for safety reasons but also for aesthetic ones: An obnoxious oyster or garlic odor is emmitted from the breath within seconds of DMSO's application to the skin.) Containers of DMSO should be tightly sealed to avoid dilution, because DMSO can absorb large amounts of water from the air. In all cases, follow label directions exactly for the safest, most effective use of DMSO."

COMPLEMENT FIXATION TEST FOR EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS

The Diagnostic Laboratory at Bozeman, now has the capability to run the Complement Fixation test (CF) for Equine Encephalomyelitis, EEE, WEE, and VEE. The CF test will be run as the demand requires but at least weekly (on Mondays) if requests and sera are on hand.

Three (3) mls of clear serum are required to run the test. During hot weather it is suggested you allow the serum to clot, and remove the clot before shipment to the laboratory.

For diagnostic purposes it is strongly suggested that you draw an acute blood sample. Separate the clot and send immediately to the laboratory. Assuming the horse is still alive, a convalescent sample should be drawn three weeks later, again remove the clot and send to the laboratory.

Diagnosis is made on a change of titer between the acute and convalescent sample. Be sure and include the vaccination history of the animal and use the SV-2A serology form to submit the sample.

POLICY REGARDING FURNISHING OF OWNERS COPIES OF LABORATORY FINDINGS

As a result of Board of Livestock action, the Diagnostic Laboratory will change its policy regarding the furnishing of owner's copies of laboratory findings.

The new policy effective August 1, 1978, will be as follows:

1700 - i

 Both the owner's copy and the submitting veterinarian's copy of the final laboratory report (SY-51) will be returned to the veterinarian.

The owner will be notified by postcard that the final report has been completed and mailed to the submitting veterinarian and suggest that the owner contact the veterinarian to discuss the laboratory findings.

- Both the owner's copy and the submitting veterinarian's copy of all Coggins test reports (On SV-2A and B) will be returned to the veterinarian.
 - All other serology reports (SV-2A and B) will be distributed as in the past. Example: one copy to veterinarian, owner, Helena office, and the laboratory.
- It remains necessary that we have the proper mailing address of the owner so that postcards can be properly addressed and received. Please use box number, and/or street numbers when available.

SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY REPORT FOR JUNE, 1978

Accessions processed by the laboratory by specie are as follows:

Bovine	110
Equine	52
Porcine	15
Ovine	25
Feline	14
Canine	34
Avian	5
Wildlife	27
Other	106
TOTAL	388

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STATE OF MONTANA



DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION

HELENA, MONTANA 59601

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MONTHLY LETTER

BOARD OF LIVESTOCK

JAMES W. GLOSSER, D.V.M.

ADMINISTRATOR

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STATE VETERINARIAN



STATE OF MONTANA DAPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK Animal Health Division Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

JULY 1978

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER REPORTED IN BRAZIL

The following is taken from an information bulletin by APHIS, Western Regional Information Office, dated June 5, 1978:

"African swine fever (ASF) -- the most deadly of all foreign diseases of swine -- has invaded the Western Hemisphere for the second time in recent years. ASF has been found in the state of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The disease invaded Cuba in 1971.

Positive diagnosis of ASF was made at a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) laboratory from tissues sent from Brazil. A team of USDA veterinarians, experts on this disease, went to Brazil on June 5, as advisors to the Brazilian government.

The finding of ASF in Brazil will not affect commerce, according to Dr. Frank J. Mulhern, Administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Meat and livestock imports, he said, are already strongly restricted because of other diseases existing in Brazil, such as foot-and-mouth disease and hog cholera.

However, Dr. Mulhern said, APHIS inspectors at border ports will pay extra attention to ship stores and garbage, imported processed meats, clothing, footwear, and equipment coming into the country from that area. These actions reinforce stringent restrictions against pork and pork products from any country where devastating animal diseases exist.

African swine fever has been established for many years in eastern and southern Africa. The disease spread to Portugal in 1957 and Spain in 1960. It is a highly contagious and usually fatal virus disease. Despite years of research, efforts to produce a vaccine have been unsuccessful.

ASF spreads rapidly, like virulent forms of hog cholera. Infected hogs are the principal source; the few hogs that recover usually remain carriers. In Africa, wild pigs, wart hogs and bush pigs may be reservoirs of the disease although they seldom show signs of infection. The disease is spread by contaminated garbage, feed or water, contaminated premises, clothing, footwear, and improper disposal of infected carcasses. Several outbreaks have been traced directly to the feeding of uncooked garbage containing the virus."

The following is a quote taken from a memorandum received in this office June 7, 1978 from the United States. Department of Agriculture, Bismarck, North Dakota:

"On May 30, 1978, the Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC) of the United States Department of Agriculture, Greenport, Long Island, New York, confirmed African swine fever in a herd of swine in Brazil. The herd which consisted of about 1,000 swine and which was located in the area of Rio de Janeiro has been destroyed and an eradication program is in progress.

Information about the outbreak is still very limited; however, it has been determined that the swine were being fed garbage from the Rio de Janeiro airport."

ARTIFICIAL INSEMINATION AND FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

The following is an excerpt from APHIS Feature News, June 1978:

"Can livestock breeders in one-half of the Western Hemisphere import semen from the other half and improve their herds? Or will they import foot-and-mouth disease along with the semen, wiping out all the progress they hoped to make?

The problem is that one-half of the Western Hemisphere--from Panama north--is free of foot-and-mouth disease, or FMD. The other half, South America, has the disease in its livestock herds. But the southern half also has some good cattle in spite of the FMD threat, and many a rancher in northern countries would like to improve his herd with South American bloodlines.

Artificial insemination offers an economical way of importing those new bloodlines. But since semen can carry the virus of FMD, that presents a real threat of introducing the disease, one of the most contagious and destructive livestock plagues in the world.

The threat of introducing FMD by artificial insemination has led veterinarians, animal health officials and responsible livestock producers throughout North and Central America to call for stronger laws against smuggling semen into the country and for the regulation of artificial insemination.

This concern came to a head in April at the 11th Inter-American Meeting on Foot-and-Mouth Disease and Zoonoses Control, held in Washington, D.C., under the auspices of the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO). Latin American livestock producers, represented by their international organization known as C.I.A.G.A., urged the adoption of a resolution calling on all PAHO member nations to enact stronger laws for the prosecution of persons illegally importing semen, and to work toward developing safe procedures for the importation of semen throughout the hemisphere.

With the support of the United States and other nations, the resolution passed. Veterinary officials from some 30 countries thus addressed the issue of semen smuggling and the threat of FMD. The response will depend on the determination of PAHO member governments to recognize what a disaster FMD would be if it is introduced into the FMD-free nations, and to act aggressively to prevent it."

RABIES IN 1978

Thus far in 1978, there have been three confirmed cases of rabies in Montana. The first two cases were confirmed from separate reports on April 19 & April 20, 1978, in Roosevelt and Carter counties, respectively. The most recent case was confirmed in Roosevelt County, June 5. 1978.

It is imperative that all practicing veterinarians be alert for signs indicative of a rabies diagnosis. The endemic areas in the Eastern counties of the state are, of course, the most likely source but veterinarians in all areas should be especially aware of the threat.

Pet owners in towns and country, alike, should be made aware of the possibility of spread of rabies, and immunization of all dogs, and as many cats as possible, be encouraged. Veterinarians, necessarily, must be leaders in immunization of pet populations.

VISIT BY DR. WILKINS

Monday, June 19, 1978, Dr. H. F. Wilkins, State Veterinarian of Montana from 1948 to 1954, was a visitor in the Helena office. Dr. Wilkins, now a California resident, is hale and hearty, and vitally interested still, in Veterinary Medicine.

It was interesting in visiting with him to find how many current problems are still some of the same ones faced by Dr. Wilkins and his predesessors, i.e. scables and cooperation problems with various states.

Good health and more long life to you Dr. Wilkins, come back and visit when possible.

LIVESTOCK TO ALASKA

The following was taken from a memorandum received from USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services, Salem, Oregon:

"Many, if not most, of the livestock being moved from the Lower 48 to Alaska goes by surface transportation and thus transits Canada. With few exceptions, livestock entering Canada for any purpose, including transit shipments, must meet Canadian import requirements. Many of these shipments exit the United States from Area 19 and too often arrive at the border with a State health certificate meeting only the Alaska entry requirements."

INCREASED LABORATORY COST

Our contract with Montana State University Chemistry Laboratory, effective July 1, 1978 calls for an average 6.7% increase in cost of analytical and toxicology services. This increased cost will be passed on to the Veterinarians where applicable. There is no change in policy, as to where charges will be made, only in $\underline{\cos t}$ of services.

SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY REPORT FOR MAY, 1978

May, 1978 proved to be a busy month at the Diagnostic Laboratory. Accessions processed by the laboratory by specie are as follows:

Bovine	255
Equine	62
Porcine	43
Ovine	57
Feline	20
Canine	47
Avian	20
Wildlife	15
0ther	148
Misc. animals	0
TOTAL	667

This figure compares with 423 accessions processed in May, 1977.

Seventeen "human exposure" cases were handled in May. None were positive. Eighteen "non-human exposure" cases were handled in May. One was positive, that being a skunk.

BEFORE THE BOARD OF LIVESTOCK STATE OF MONTANA

In the matter of the amendment 32-2.6A(26)-S6020 to alter the definition of proper permanent identification of officially vaccinated animals for brucellosis.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF RULE 32-2.6A(26)-S6020.

(Brucellosis Vaccination Identification) NO PUBLIC HEARING CONTEMPLATED.

TO: ALL INTERESTED PERSONS

1. On or after August 14, 1978 the Board of Livestock proposes to amend Rule 32-2.6A(26)-S6020, (7) by removing language which allows breed registration tattoos to be used as official brucellosis vaccination identification tattoos.

2. The specific language to be removed is sub-paragraph (c) of Paragraph 7, in its entirety. Sub-paragraph (d) will

be relettered sub-paragraph (c).

3. The purpose of this amendment is to conform our rules to the federal requirments as found in the Uniform Methods and Rules for Brucellosis Eradication, a publication of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. In order to properly identify vaccinated animals, especially for shipment interstate, it is necessary to adhere to the federal requirements.

4. Interested parties may submit their data, views or arguments concerning the proposed amendments in writing to Dr. James W. Glosser, Department of Livestock Capitol Station, Helena, MT. 59601. Written comments must be received by August 14, 1978.

5. If a person directly affected wishes to express his data, views and arguments orally or in writing at a public hearing, he must make written request for a public hearing and submit this request along with any written comments he has to Dr. James W. Glosser on or before August 14, 1978.

6. If the department receives requests for a public hearing from more than twenty five persons directly affected, a public hearing will be held at a later date. Notification of parties will be made by publication in the Administrative Register.

The authority of the department to amend this rule

is based on section 46-208.

ROBERT G. BARTHELMESS Chairman Board of Livestock

Certified to the Secretary of State July 3, 1978



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MONTHLY LETTER

BOARD OF LIVESTOCK

JAMES W. GLOSSER, D.V.M.

ADMINISTRATOR &

STATE VETERINARIAN



STATE OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK Animal Health Division Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

JUNE 1978

SCABIES

The latest score on scabies outbreaks as of May 15, 1978 is 286 since October 1977. The two most recent outbreaks are one in Colorado and one in Natrona County, Wyoming.

Montana's control measures that have been instituted since January 20, 1978 include the adoption of a permit system for importing all classes of livestock, arrangement of contract dip facilities at Miles City and Billings and most recently preparations for one at Dillon. Construction of a portable vat is nearing completion, and due to recent developments on the South Dakota border, it will probably be placed in operation to service the southeastern corner of Montana that trades into northwest South Dakota. It also will be used to dip Montana cattle in case of an outbreak within the state.

The comment, from the cattle industry within the state, has mainly been in support of the measures taken to prevent the introduction of scables into our native cattle. The cooperation of all practicing veterinarians and stockman is solicited, in maintaining our scables free status.

The costs and inconvenience, that are generated by these measures are extremely evident, but it is felt that these are small in comparison to the costs that would result from outbreaks within the state taking their toll.

VIEWS OF OTHERS-BASED ON THEORY

The following article is taken from the LIVESTOCK MARKET DIGEST, Dated May 8, 1978:

THE FOOD AND DRUG Administration's proposal to ban low-level feeding of antibiotics without a veterinarian's prescription drew little support during three recent public hearings.

The issue has received sharp criticism since first announced last spring. Members of the agricultural industry are quick to point out that the proposed restrictions are based on theory rather than fact or probability.

THE ADMINISTRATION has promised to reduce interference by the federal government. The president has promised to stem inflation. Maybe FDA needs to balance the predictable high costs generated by the proposal against potential public benefits before making any decision based on theory alone.--Drovers Journal.

EIA: TRANSMISSION BY CARRIER

The following is an excerpt from an article by Drs. Kemen, Et Al, of the Research Laboratory for Equine Diseases, New York State College, Cornell:

"It has been often suggested by those opposed to an E.I.A. program that, under natural conditions, E.I.A. virus \underline{is} not transmitted from horses that

are chronically ill or inapparent carriers. In this study, E.I.A. virus <u>was transmitted</u> from an inapparent carrier by the immediate interrupted feeding of 3 horse flies. (The donor pony used was clinically normal for the period beginning 31 days before and ending 87 days after the interrupted feeding). This study confirms that insect transmission of virus from inapparent carriers can occur. Therefore, it would seem that all AGID test positive horses, including those without overt signs, are reservoirs and potential sources of E.I.A. virus infection for other horses when insect vectors are feeding."

LIGHTER SIDE

An efficiency expert is a feller who is smart enough to tell you how to run your business; but is too smart to run one, himself.

CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS

The following is a quote from Dr. Tom S. Maddox, Kentucky State Veterinarian:

"The CEM Advisory Committee met on April 24, 1978, and were advised of the results of a complement-fixation test that had been accomplished by the University of Kentucky Veterinary Science Department. A study of the results from these serum samples made it fairly evident that mares showing a titer to this test were either infected or had been infected at some previous time. The committee agreed this test should be used as a diagnostic aid for surveillance for CFM.

We have advised all owners of mares that are positive to CEM complement-fixation test that in the interest of good disease control that these animals not be bred in the 1978 breeding season even though results of the culture showed them to be negative and they had met the criteria of the Code of Practice for breeding. The emergency regulation at the present time only prohibits those positive to culture from breeding. Enclosed is a summary of the first report of the University of Kentucky Laboratory for your study.

The committee also strongly urged that a complement-fixation test be completed on all mares bred from this date on. This test to provide the greatest amount of information should be accomplished on serum that is taken between the 15th and 40th day post breeding.

It has been suggested to the USDA that they investigate the possibilities of getting the complement-fixation test as an official test for certifying safety that would allow the movement of thoroughbred mares out of Kentucky.

"UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY SUMMARY REPORT

We have examined 678 serum samples from mares bred during the current season. The results provide a reasonable degree of confidence that this test procedure may be applied to revision of the code of practice for control of the disease. Our interpretations of the results of the serological test that may be so applied are summarized below:

- CEM infected mares detected by culture*-----29
 CEM infected mares detected by both culture and
- complement-fixation test (CFT)-----25
- 3. CEM infected mares detected by CFT without culture or with negative culture-----24
- Total CEM infected mares detected by CFT-----49**
- 5. Total CEM infected mares-----53
- 6. Total CEM infected mares bred to Spendthrift stallions-----21
- 7. Total CEM infected mares bred to Gainesway stallions-----32
- 8. Total stallions implicated by direct culture-----5
- 9. Total stallions implicated by culture of CEM from mares covered by them------10
- Included test mares
- ** Four culture positive mares were not CF tested."

LAST WORD

If you think we had a bad winter, just wait until the government starts controlling it.

VETERINARY MALPRACTICE

The following article is taken from ANIMAL NUTRITION & HEALTH, Dated April 1978:

Several emerging trends in veterinary malpractice suits may make such cases more frequent and more difficult in the near future, according to Jack Dinsmore, DVM, head of the Glenview Animal Hospital, Glenview, Illinois.

Dinsmore warns that "tremendous erosion" of the "locality rule" may prove to be one of the greatest problems. Formerly this rule held that veterinarians could not be held accountable for actions that were common practice in the local geographic area. Increasingly, however, courts are broadening and raising the minimum standard so that veterinarians are accountable if their actions are not up to the level of those practiced by the average veterinarian in the locality.

Emotional or punitive damages incurred by the owners because of the loss of animals are increasingly involved in claims, although negligence or malicious intent must be proved in such cases. Dinsmore points out that this may drastically change the course of veterinary medicine.

Veterinarians are facing an increase in the insurance costs of their professional liability insurance trust because of the rising costs of maintaining the program and the costs of handling and settling claims. Dinsmore stresses that maintenance of complete and accurate records by the veterinarian is essential in contesting malpractice suits.

Veterinarians are caught in a controversy when accidents occur during mechanical handling or restraining of animals. "We must look more closely at the quality of training of and supervision given by our employees," he states. More than a third of all malpractice cases are connected with non-professional services.

The frequency of malpractice cases brought against different types of veterinary practitioners has stabilized the last three years and likely will remain about the same in the next few years. About 65% of all cases occur in small animal practices, 18% involve cattle and 15% are brought against veterinarians treating horses.

IDENTIFICATION OF SPAYED HEIFERS

The Department of Livestock, Animal Health Division has a brand recorded for the identification of spayed heifers. It is an "S" on the left or right neck. If you brand "S" in another location you are using a brand that is recorded to some stock owner and you are going to cause your client inconvenience, by getting cattle tied up and money tied up with a misbrand.

When spaying heifers brand "S" only on left or right neck. Montana brand laws are specific.

SUMMARY OF THE DIANOSTIC LABORATORY REPORT FOR APRIL 1978

Laboratory accessions processed by specie during April 1978 are as follows:

SPECIES	TOTAL
Bovine	296
Equine	64
Porcine	13
Ovine	57
Feline	7
Canine	39
Avian	4
Wildlife	12
Other	91
ΤΟΤΔΙ	500

This compares with 437 accessions processed in April 1977, a 31% increase.

Rabies virus was detected in two specimens in April. Both were skunks, one from Roosevelt County and the other from Carter County.



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Administrator & State Veterinarian



STATE OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK Animal Health Division Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER - MAY 1978

STATUS OF CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS (CEM)

The following was received from Dr. John C. Jefferies, Regional Director-North Central, Veterinary Services and was sent to Area Veterinarians in Charge.

The Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC), Science Education Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, has confirmed that the isolate submitted by the University of Kentucky, Veterinary Science Department was that of contagious equine metritis (CEM). The organism has been isolated and identified from stallions on two premises near Lexington, Kentucky. In addition, 66 mares bred on these two premises have returned to brood farms in the area and are suspicious. Exposed and confirmed equidae are confined on the premises on which they are currently located and are isolated from other equidae. A moratorium was imposed by the State of Kentucky on the intrastate transportation of thoroughbred horses for breeding. This moratorium is to end at 8 a.m. (EST), March 28, 1978.

On March 17, 1978, a 30-day embargo was imposed by the Governor of Kentucky which restricts the interstate movement of thoroughbred breeding stock from Kentucky.

Information is being sent to you so that State and University laboratories that have had people trained at PIADC will immediately start culturing for CEM at these laboratories. Many of the horses which came from infected countries between the date these countries became infected and September 9, 1977, the date that the United States placed a ban on these horses, will need to be recultured. Instructions and a list of such horses are being prepared for distribution.

Please notify State cooperators and other interested parties of the above information.

ON PREGNANT HEIFERS AND THEIR CALVES

Pregnant heifers at 60 and 120 days' gestation were exposed to bluetongue (BT) virus through the bites of infected <u>Culicoides variipennis</u>. Two of the 10 infected heifers aborted, and 1 of the 10 heifers had a stillborn calf. The other 7 heifers gave birth to calves that had various degrees of dysfunctions and anomalies.

Four of 8 calves born to infected heifers, including the stillborn calf, had BT virus in their blood at birth. None of the 7 live calves had detectable serum neutralizing or precipitating antibodies against BT before they ingested colostrum. Some calves developed signs of BT during their first 6 months of life.--A. J. Luedke et al in Am J Vet Res, 38, (Nov, 1977): 1687.

PROPER IDENTIFICATION WHEN BLOOD TESTING

When drawing blood from any animal for test purposes, proper identification of that animal is also necessary. Especially, when cattle go to slaughter, the specimen catcher at the slaughter plant does not always collect the one piece of man-made identification that you use on a test chart. Consequently, record all man-made identification on your test chart at the time of bleeding, along with age, sex, breed and color. It helps immensely when traceback becomes necessary.

PSOROPTIC CATTLE SCABIES Update - March 31, 1978

Since October 1, 1977, 268 outbreaks of cattle scabies have been confirmed from 15 States as follows: Arizona 2, California 2, Colorado 74, Illinois 1, Iowa 19, Kansas 24, Minnesota 4, Nebraska 47, New Mexico 35, Oklahoma 11, Oregon 1, South Dakota 12, Texas 23, Utah 1, and Wyoming 11.

The increased number of outbreaks have required considerable more attention and activity in the States concerned and also resulted in stiffer cattle import requirements being imposed by these and other States not presently infected.

The membership of the National Cattlemen's Association (NCA) adopted on January 26, 1978, a resolution strongly urging Veterinary Services to develop, in cooperation with all State regulatory agencies, an all-out effort to control and eradicate cattle scabies.

On March 14, 1978, Mr. Jack Dahl, Chairman of the Animal Health Committee, NCA, and other members of NCA met with VS representatives in Washington to discuss cattle scabies and other disease problems.

POLICY CHANGES CONCERNING DEPUTY STATE VETERINARIANS

With the increasing legal ramifications of doing official procedures, it is becoming more and more necessary to be able to document official actions. Since virtually all practitioners, especially large animal practitioners, are deputized and participate in services requiring accreditation and deputization, it behooves all veterinarians to pay strict attention to the details required in preparing official tests, and documents.

In the past year, there have been three practices involved in the misuse of card test equipment, (equipment supplied by the Federal Government under control of the State Veterinarian), one revocation of deputization resulting from illegal acts performed at an auction market in handling quarantined brucellosis reactor cattle, and one termination of appointment as a livestock market veterinary inspector. The necessity for these actions brings general discredit to our profession, and fosters distrust and cynicism toward the livestock laws and regulations of Montana.

These laws and regulations have been drawn up with the main aim being the protection of the health status of the livestock belonging to Montana ranchers and other owners, not as some wags and cynics feel, as a "veterinary relief act." Veterinarians that flout these regulations and laws, and deem it unnecessary to adhere to the detail and intent of them, will find it necessary then to defend their own actions to the Board of Livestock and State Veterinarian, when allegations are filed to remove deputyships and accreditations.

Continuation of "sloppy" methods related to official tests, etc., screening of herds or cattle in the country by either the card or plate test, and other schemes designed to skirt the intent of Montana's regulations will not be tolerated.

COMPLETE OWNER NAME AND ADDRESS TO BE SHOWN ON FORMS

It has been brought to our attention, once again, that proper owner names and addresses are not being entered on Form SV-43 and Form SV-2A and 2B.

Several years ago, as a result of reports that owners were not being informed of laboratory findings by veterinarians, the Board of Livestock ruled that owners be mailed copies of final laboratory reports, directly from the Diagnostic Laboratory. Except for special requests by veterinarians, this is being done.

In recent months the Diagnostic Laboratory is having excessive problems with getting proper addresses of owners; and requests that owners copies be sent to the submitting veterinarian. Some veterinarians are resorting to using fictitious addresses, using the owners name and the veterinarians address, and just refusing to list the owners name on laboratory forms. This practice has resulted in numerous phone calls and frayed nerves. The work load at the Diagnostic Laboratory for the first quarter of 1978 is up an average of 63% over the first quarter of 1977. In view of this work load, the staff at the Diagnostic Laboratory has neither the time nor desire to hassle this problem with practitioners.

From now on, COMPLETE AND CORRECT OWNER NAMES AND ADDRESSES WILL BE SHOWN ON ALL FORMS. If this procedure cannot be followed, POSITIVE AND FIRM ACTION will be taken on an individual basis.

EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS

Once again we are at the time of year when we should be aware that the season for Equine Encephalomyelitis is approaching. It is a good idea to encourage clients to have all their horses vaccinated prior to the mosquito season.

The Department of Health & Environmental Sciences, and the Department of Livestock, Animal Health Division will work together again this year in a surveillance effort directed at WEE and EEE. By use of the complement fixation test done at the Diagnostic Laboratory on submitted sera, it is felt that titers shown can be differentiated from vaccinal titers and a better correlation can be made with actual disease incidence. Paired sera, acute and convalescent on each case are still advised, and call clinical cases into Helena office.

With the amount of water standing, especially in our Northern regions, and the possibilities of a warm early season, mosquitoes could be large and prevalent and Encephalomyetitis could be a serve problem this summer. Be prepared!!!

SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY REPORT FOR MARCH 1978

Laboratory accessions processed by specie during March 1978 are as follows:

SPECIES	TOTAL
Bovine	519 82 38

Ovine	37 20
Canine	46
Wildlife	13
Other	_17
TOTAL	776

This is a 57% increase in accessions processed, compared to March 1977. We processed more Bovine accessions in March of 1978, than total accessions in March of 1977.

Although 35 rabies cases were processed in March, none proved to be positive for the rabies virus.

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MONTHLY LETTER

BOARD OF LIVESTOCK

JAMES W. GLOSSER, D.V.M.

ADMINISTRATOR
&
STATE VETERINARIAN



STATE OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK Animal Health Division Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER-APRIL, 1978

USDA REPORTS RESURGENCE OF CATTLE SCABIES - MARCH 16, 1978

Cattle scabies, long a problem in a small area in the southwest, is now appearing in midwest and south central plains states, a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) official said today.

Dr. Glen O. Schubert of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), said that since Oct. 1, veterinarians have confirmed 226 cases of scabies nationwide, compared with 82 cases in the same period a year earlier. He attributed the increase to movements of exposed and improperly dipped cattle into new areas.

During February, 60 outbreaks were confirmed in 12 states. In the west, Wyoming reported 3, Arizona, California and Utah one each. Also, Colorado, 14; Nebraska and New Mexico, 8 each; Iowa, 7; Oklahoma, 6; South Dakota, 5; Kansas, 4; and Texas, 2.

Schubert said the number of outbreaks can be held down if ranchers check their stock regularly and report suspected cases to their veterinarians or to federal or state animal health officials. Colorado has already started to require dipping almost every time cattle are moved. North Dakota and Oklahoma do not allow entry of cattle from known infested areas without a permit and health certificate.

As of March 21, 1978 USDA figures indicate 252 confirmed outbreaks of scabies in the United States.

Since January 20, 1978 Montana has required a permit for importation of cattle from all states, and dipping is required on all classes of cattle from source states and from infested counties in intermediate states. These cattle are being handled through existing dipping facilities south of Billings and will also be handled through a facility under construction in Miles City.

HOW MUCH IS A PET SKUNK WORTH?

The following article is reprinted from the Oklahoma Communicable Disease Bulletin, Vol. 77, No. 25.

Two rather distressing events occurred recently which have prompted us to reflect on the value of attempting to domesticate wild animals, especially skunks. In one day, our laboratory reported positive rabies tests on two "pet" skunks. The devastating results of well meaning, but poorly informed, individuals who attempt to make a pet of an animal that should be left in its natural habitat will become obvious as we recount the physical, emotional and financial burden that resulted.

Skunk #1 was captured by two men in northwestern Oklahoma in broad daylight. It was around two months old at the time. The men took the small animal to their shop where two co-workers played with it, letting it crawl over their arms and head.

The foreman of the shop decided to take the animal home to his wife and four-month old son. Since the animal was small, the wife obtained an eyedropper and began force feeding it. Sometimes she had to put her hands in its mouth to relieve choking, etc. A few times, after she had put her hands in the skunk's mouth, she let her young son suck on her fingers. In addition she allowed the skunk to crawl on her son, a very cute sight indeed.

The six children from the family next door also fell in love with the new pet, and had very close association with it. They, too, enjoyed having the baby skunk crawl over them. One girl, in fact, was bitten on the hand by the animal.

All were deeply saddened when the pet died. Just to be safe the animal was checked. It was found to have rabies.

Skunk #2 was over 2 years old. This northeastern Oklahoma skunk had been thoroughly domesticated to the point that it had been de-scented and immunized against rabies. It had been given a good modified, live virus vaccine licensed only for dogs and cats, approximately two years before its untimely death.

After the skunk had bitten one man, and exposed two children, it was euthanized and submitted for rabies examination. The results of the test were positive. It is impossible to determine if the illness in the skunk was due to "street" or vaccine rabies virus, although a two-year central nervous system infection with vaccine virus seems very unlikely.

Tally: 2 "pet" skunks proved positive for rabies. 15 humans treated 360 injections \$7.500.00 estimated cost

These two incidents point our several very serious considerations.

- Any skunk is a potential source of rabies exposure, regardless of age or geographical location.
- Rabid pet skunks often expose individuals because of people's curiosity toward such a unique pet.
- The economic burden can be devastating to a family with multiple exposures when one considers that the average cost to treat an adult is \$500.000.
- Vaccinating skunks against rabies has not been shown to provide protection for the animal.

 $\frac{\text{There is no rabies vaccine licensed for use in skunks.}}{\text{should not be vaccinated.}} \cdot \frac{\text{Skunks}}{\text{should not be vaccinated.}}$

A false sense of security develops in the "owner" when we encourage domestication by providing vaccination, de-scenting, and other pet care for skunks.

CONTAGIOUS EQUINE METRITIS

On March 20, 1978, the following letter was received from Dr. Tom S. ${\sf Maddox}$, State Veterinarian of Kentucky:

On March 9th the Pathology Department of the University of Kentucky notified the State Veterinarian that they had cultured an organism that had the characteristics of the causative organism of Contagious Equine Metritis (as seen in Europe and Australia in 1976). Since that time 36 horses have been quarantined. Two (2) French stallions and one native stallion are involved. They had bred 33 mares. By March 13th, all of these mares had been located and isolated. All are being recultured.

On March 9th, all Central Kentucky veterinarians were advised at a forum at the University of Kentucky. Gainesway Farm and Spendthrift Farm suspended all breeding. Claiborne Farm stopped receiving any mares from outside.

On March 13th following a briefing at Gainesway Farm, Commissioner Thomas O. Harris, appointed an advisory committee to study the problem. The committee met at 11 a.m. on March 14th and issued an emergency regulation which was signed by Governor Julian Carroll regarding movement of animals out of Kentucky.

Two British scientists arrived in Lexington March 14th and are aiding in setting up the laboratory at the University to handle all suspect samples. Also, the Central Kentucky Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and the Hopkinsville Laboratory have the ability to process cultures; however, Central Kentucky cultures should be routed to the University of Kentucky Laboratory.

The British have brought work of a complement-fixation test that may be of value in our epidemiological studies.

I would appreciate your assuring your clients that we feel we have contained the disease in Central Kentucky but need a little more time to be absolutely certain. The offices of APHIS, VS, USDA and the State Veterinarian will be glad to advise you by telephone should you have any other questions.

IDENTIFICATION OF HORSES FOR EXPORT TO CANADA

Blood submitted to the approved EIA testing laboratory should be accompanied by a chart which gives an accurate, brief, and clear description of the animal(s). Blood tubes should be numbered and the description of the animal entered beside that number on the chart. You should then enter that same description on the health certificate for each horse exported to Canada.

Accurate description includes tattoos, brands, scars, markings on head body, coronet, pastern, sock, or stocking; the sex, age, and breed. There may be other distinguishable features that could be included to help positively identify the animal.

CARTER BUDGET CONCERNS RESEARCH HEAD

The following is taken from the March 1978 Montana Stockgrowers Association "The Tally Sheet":

The head of the Montana State University Veterinary Research Laboratory is concerned that President Carter's budget can damage the quality of veterinary research in Montana.

"A major concern for Montana is that without federal appropriations we really cannot muster a concentrated attack on major animal diseases," said Dr. David Young. "Because Montana's sparse population and economy we cannot look to accomplish everything with state funds."

Dr. Young pointed out that less than 1/10 of one per cent of the state's total agricultural receipts are spent on animal disease research.

DEDICATION OF NEW VETERINARY SCIENCE BUILDING CANCELLED

On March 6, 1978 the following notice was received from Barbara Robbins, Continuing Education, College of Veterinary Medicine, Washington State University:

In reference to the Washington State University College of Veterinary medicine Spring Conference April 20-22, 1978, please note that the dedication of the New Veterinary Science Building has been cancelled and will be rescheduled at a later date. Announcement of this change in your Association newsletter will be appreciated.

VETERINARY RESEARCH EDUCATION AND DIAGNOSTICS, MARSH LABORATORY

With this Monthly Letter we have included a pamphlet entitled "Veterinary Research Education and Diagnostics, Marsh Laboratory, Bozeman, Montana". The Veterinary Research Laboratory and the Diagnostic Laboratory are to be congratulated on such a beautifully done and informative pamphlet. We know you will enjoy it.

SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY REPORT FOR JANUARY 1978

Four hundred and seven accessions were processed during January of 1978. This compares with 295 accessions processed during January 1977. This amounts to 72% increase in accessions processed.

During January, 36 bovine abortions were processed through the Diagnostic Laboratory. Five of the 36 were diagnosed as resulting from Leptospiral infections.

For the same period of time four abortions were processed from the equine. The cause of the four abortions at this time has not been definitely determined.

During January, 15 human exposure rabies specimens were processed. None proved positive. Seven non-human exposure cases were seen, two proved positive, both in skunks.

It is important that proper specimens be submitted to the Laboratory for definative disease diagnosis. If you are in doubt about the proper specimen to submit, please refer to the "Montana Administrative Codes and Laboratory Reference Manual", which every veterinarian should have. The rear section of the manual lists most of the diseases seen in Montana, and the desireable tissues to be submitted to the Laboratory to aid in diagnosis. If you do not have the manual, please request one from the Helena office.

SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 1978

Accessions handled by the Diagnostic Laboratory by specimen for the month of February 1978 are as follows:

	JATC
Bovine	247
Equine	46
Porcine	88
Ovine	17
Feline	9
Canine	37
Avian	6
Wildlife	5
Other	32
	487

This total of 487 accessions for February, 1978, is a 80% increase over the number of accessions processed in February, 1977.

You are undoubtedly experiencing some delays in getting reports out of the laboratory, especially those cases requiring histopathology. We apologize for this inconvenience, but hope you can realize the pressure our staff is under, with an 80% increase. Be assured we'll do the best we can.

The Diagnostic Laboratory in Bozeman is not doing any diagnostic procedures for the diagnosis of Reo or Corona virus diarrhea problems in calves.

It is best if practitioners mail the fecal samples directly to the Animal Disease Research and Diagnostic Laboratory, South Dakota State University, Brookings, S.D. 57007

The fecal sample MUST be collected fresh, quickly frozen, and packed so as to arrive at Brookings in a frozen condition. The specimen is examined by electron microscopy and the charge is \$10.00. Please do not send Reo or Corona virus diagnostic specimens to the Bozeman Laboratory.

636,05 LIOM Jai, Feb, March 1978 *

STATE OF MONTANA

DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION HELENA, MONTANA 59601

PLEASE RETURN STATE DOCUMENTS COLLECTION

MONTANA STATE LI 930 E Lyndale Ave Halena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

BOARD OF LIVESTOCK

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ADMINISTRATOR STATE VETERINARIAN



STATE OF MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK Animal Health Division Helena, Montana 59601

MONTHLY LETTER

JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH, 1978

BRADFORD F. NEWCOMB, D.V.M. JOINS THE ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION STAFF

On November 9, 1978, the Montana Board of Livestock appointed Dr. Bradford F. Newcomb as Chief of the Disease Control Bureau. Dr. Newcomb assumed his duties as Bureau Chief on January 30, 1978.

Dr. Newcomb received his Bachelor of Science and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degrees from Mashington State University at Pullman, Washington. He also attended Colorado State University and the College of Great Falls. Prior to his schooling he served in the United States Navy. At the time of his appointment, he was in private practice at Great Falls and served as market veterinarian for this Department. Dr. Newcomb is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Montana Veterinary Medical Association and the American Association of Bovine Practitioners.

Dr. Newcomb and his wife JoAnn have three sons and one daughter.

Part of the duties $\mbox{ Dr. Newcomb}$ has assumed is the publishing of the $\mbox{ Monthly}$ Letter and he would appreciate any suggestions.

We wish $\operatorname{Dr.}$ Newcomb success in his new position and are very glad to have him with us.

SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE REGARDING THE PUBLICATION OF THE MONTHLY LETTER

The response received on the Questionnaire sent out regarding the publication of the Monthly Letter was very gratifying. We would like to Thank you all for returning them so promptly.

The results show that most of you do receive and read your Monthly Letter, and wish to continue to receive it on a monthly basis.

The majority felt that it was not necessary to publish the statistical portion, but wanted it worked up and available, should the need arise.

In view of the results of this questionnaire, we will continue to do our best to publish a Monthly Letter and discontinue the statistical portion.

If any of you have articles or suggestions for articles you would like to see published in the Monthly Letter, please notify us and we will do our best to get them published.

INSTITUTION OF PERMIT SYSTEM ON ALL CLASSES OF CATTLE

As an attempt to prevent importation of cattle scabies into Montana from primary

and secondary source states, the Department of Livestock has adopted a permit system as a requirement for entering cattle. It was felt that by requiring a permit to be obtained by the importing veterinarian, this Department would better be able to maintain control and subsequent surveillance of imported cattle.

At present cattle from Arizona, California, Minnesota, Oregon and Wyoming may be permitted in, provided, the requesting veterinarian is able to certify that the stock are one owner, clean county cattle from a non-infested area.

Mixed lot and market cattle will not be permitted unless the requesting veterinarian is able to certify clean organ of the cattle prior to assembly.

All other scabies involved states are being refused permission until dipping stations can be established in Montana, near ports of entry and possibly certified stations authorized in one or more neighboring states.

The Board of Livestock feels that it is far better to attempt to prevent the importation of this disease through these measures, than it would be to allow unrestricted entry of infested cattle and subsequently try and eradicate after it already establishes itself in our state's livestock.

PASSING OF F. L. AUCHMUTY, D.V.M.

We have been notified that Dr. F. L. Auchmuty passed away September 26, 1977 at Sheridan, Wyoming. Our deepest sympathy to Mrs. Auchmity and family.

DIAGNOSIS OF SPINOSE EAR TICK

Though not a normal inhabitant of the Northern tier states, the diagnosis of spinose ear tick, and new specie name is otobius megnini, was made by Dr. Frazer of Polson.

This parasite is usually found in the souhtern states and Mexico. Part of the life cycle involves the ear canal beyond the hairline. The patient was presented to Dr. Frazer because of severe head shaking. Three ticks were removed from one ear and eight from the other. The parasites were viable immature forms. Symptoms had been observed by the owner for approximately two weeks and very severe the past two days prior to presentation. The patient is a six year old male canine, a family pet, in a rural area but no other domestic livestock. He has very little contact with any other animals. One possible contact is a well traveled animal. He was petted by the State Veterinarian early in October. This parasite creates a premise infestation. Dr. Brophy reports he had diagnosed this parasite on two ranches in the Big Hole area of Beaverhead County.

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Observation: One of the most important instruments in the Veterinarian's armamentarium, this winter, is a good snow shovel.

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There have been some indications from various locations in the state, that again this year, due to the combination of less than ideal grass this past summer, and early onset of winter storms and inadequate feeding, that famous endemic disease, "Montana Hollow Belly" is starting to make its appearance. It seems to be able to mask anything but rigor mortis.

PASSING OF JAMES W. JACKSON, D.V.M.

Word was received this week from California of the death of James W. Jackson, formerly of Hamilton.

Dr. Jackson came to Hamilton from Big Timber in October, 1955, and practiced veterinary medicine with the late J. W. Kilpatrick. They were joined by Jack Ward in 1958.

After Kilpatrick retired in March, 1963, Jackson and Ward continued to practice together at the Bitter Root Veterinary Clinic.

In August, 1964, Dr. Jackson moved to California, where he was recently associated with the Burns-Biotec pharmaceutical company at Oakland, California.

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SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY FOR NOVEMBER 1977

The total number of accessions handled during November 1977 by species are as follows:

SPECIES	TOTAL
Bovine. Equine. Porcine Ovine. Feline. Canine Avian Wildlife. Other	181 32 22 1 7 27 3 13 20
TOTAL	306

This compares with 281 accessions processed in November, 1976.

In November we diagnosed two cases of Rabies, both in the skunk, and neither case involving human exposure.

Mr. Henderson, who presently is acting unit head of Bacteriology, has just returned from a weeks bench training in the isolation of mycoplasma. His training was at the N.A.D.L., Ames, Iowa. As soon as we can obtain some equipment and get media prepared, we will offer this added service. Hopefully the next newsletter will carry an announcement that we are in the mycoplasma isolation business.

Marsh Laboratory, composed of the M.S.U. Veterinary Research Laboratory and the Department of Livestock, Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory, will hold an Open House from one to five p.m., Tues., Wed., and Thurs., January 31st, February 1st and 2nd, 1978. Pre-vet and graduate students will conduct tours of the building. Laboratory staff members will be on hand to explain their services, and to answer questions. Everyone is invited, Livestock producers should find the tour especially interesting and informative.

SUMMARY OF THE DIAGNOSTIC LABORATORY FOR DECEMBER 1977

The total number of accessions handled during December 1977 by species are as follows:

SPECIES	TOTAL
Bovine. Equine. Porcine. Ovine. Feline. Canine. Avian. Wildlife. Other. Misc.	219 44 32 2 19 55 11 10 36 0
TOTAL	428

This figure compares with 285 accessions processed in December 1976. This is a 66% increase in accessions over the same period in 1976.

During December, three positive rabies cases were diagnosed, in which some type of human contact was involved. This is an unusual number for this time of year. A bovine, canine and feline were involved.



"HE'S GOOD . . . BUT HE'S CERTAINLY NOT WORTH \$185,909."



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